Kussner Family

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January 28, 1985

Ms. Nancy Sherrill
Geneology Librarian
Vigo County Public Library
One Liberty Square
Terre Haute, IN 47807

Dear Ms. Sherrill,

Many thanks for your prompt response to my inquiry regarding Amalia Kussner. It is clear that I have hit "pay dirt!"

I enclose my check in the amount of $2.50 to pay in advance for photocopies of the several clippings on Kussner in your files, and I look forward most eagerly to having them. The artist's talent was frequently challanged, but it seems clear that she had the looks, charm, or drive, or perhaps all three, to become a sort of "darling" of high society, and can not be denied credit for very substantially energizing the revival of interest in miniature portrait painting that began here circa 1890. I note with considerable interest that the most recent article on Kussner was written in 1976, and I will greatly appreciate it if you could possibly find an address for the author, Frances Hughes. → 3329 Wabash Ave, Terre Haute IN 47803

I have already written St. Mary of the Woods, just this past week, and will be anxious to see what, if anything, they can tell me. I told them that Kussner attended the school from 1883 to 1890 on the strength of one of the biographical sources at hand, but the fact is that I have references giving her birthdate ~~v~~variously from 1873 to 1878 (quite possibly Amalia encouraged some confusion in that detail) so it is difficult for me to be exact with any subsequent dating. Hopefully your clippings will be of help in setting an accurate chronology.

Regarding the minutes of the Terre Haute Art Association (it gives me researcher's itch to hear that they are not yet indexed!) I think I will wait to ascertain a little more about the subject before pursuing the possibility of Kussner's connection with that group. If needed, can you recommend a local researcher?

Again, <u>many</u> thanks for help.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]
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